

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House  
(317) 232-9855

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7004**

**BILL NUMBER:** SB 166

**DATE PREPARED:** Jan 30, 2001

**BILL AMENDED:** Jan 25, 2001

**SUBJECT:** Alternative Teacher Licensing.

**FISCAL ANALYST:** Chuck Mayfield

**PHONE NUMBER:** 232-4825

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** ☒ **GENERAL**  
**DEDICATED**  
**FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended) This bill establishes the Transition to Teaching Program, and requires the Professional Standards Board to administer the program to facilitate the entry into the teaching profession of competent professionals who have not obtained a teaching license by traditional means. It requires each accredited teacher training school and department to establish a course of study that constitutes the higher education component of the program. The bill requires a program participant to successfully complete the higher education component, a written demonstration of proficiency, and a Beginning Teacher Internship Program. It provides that a school corporation may hire a program participant to teach only: (1) grade 6 through grade 12; and (2) in the subject area in which the participant has expertise. The bill provides that after receiving an initial standard teaching license, a program participant must meet the same renewal requirements as other candidates for license renewal.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2001.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** The bill establishes the Alternative Certification Program. To participate, a person must have one of the following qualifications: 1) A bachelor's degree (or the equivalent) with a 3.0 grade-point average on a four-point scale (or the equivalent) in the subject area; 2) A graduate degree in the subject area the person intends to teach; or 3) A bachelor's degree and 5 years experience in the area. The participant can receive an initial standard license by successfully completing the higher education component, a teacher internship program, and receiving a successful assessment of teaching skills from the school administrator where the internship program takes place. The higher education course of study includes at least 12 credit hours of study with a focus on the communication of knowledge to students.

The number of graduates and professionals that would select the alternative certification method is not known. Currently the Beginning Teacher Internship Program is administered by the Professional Standards Board. A mentor teacher receives about \$600 to provide guidance to a beginning teacher. If 500 people participated in the alternative certification program, the cost of the internship program could be \$300,000.

In addition, the Alternative Certification Program would probably require a PAT I-level educational consultant at approximately \$47,552 for FY 2002 and \$47,640 for FY 2003 to handle the additional work.

The funds and resources required above could be supplied through a variety of sources, including the following: 1) existing staff and resources not currently being used to capacity; 2) existing staff and resources currently being used in another program; and 3) authorized, but vacant, staff positions, including those positions that would need to be reclassified.

As of November 15, 2000, three of the Board's 37 authorized positions were vacant. Of the vacancies, one is the director, another is the deputy director, and the third vacant position is an education consultant.

Other sources to fund personnel resources could originate from funds that, otherwise, would be reverted, or from new appropriations. Ultimately, the source of funds and resources required to satisfy the requirements of this bill would depend upon legislative and administrative actions.

The Professional Standards Board is in the process of creating new certification standards that are based on performance instead of credit hours. If the new standards become reality then they may provide an alternative certification system.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Professional Standards Board.

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:** Tom Hansen, Professional Standards Board, (317) 232-9043.